

Church News

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stand out so prominently in Memphis. Our churches there were so delighted with the results that they are holding the third campaign." In Louisville, where practically all the Protestant churches took part, a leading minister said, as they were entering another campaign: "I am persuaded that this will become an annual effort." But no plan will work itself. One cannot help being impressed with the thorough preparation made for a Billy Sunday campaign. The meeting is thoroughly advertised, thousands of assistants are organized for personal work, hundreds of singers thoroughly trained, and the whole city districted and looked after in minutest detail. Make the same preparation for simultaneous meetings and the results will be great. "Plan the work, then work the plan," and there will be no disappointment.

Advantages of Simultaneous Meetings.

1. A wholesome rivalry is created that has a stimulating effect upon the individual church and a cumulative effect upon the whole city.

2. The remote districts are reached as no one big central meeting can do.

3. The results are more easily conserved. Those brought to Christ do not feel attached to some outside party, but to the pastor and church where they are converted, and can be more easily received into membership and assigned to Christian work.

4. When the services are over, there is not such a slump in the feelings of many of the new converts, as they have not become accustomed to the "saw-dust trail." They have been reached in the ordinary way and will the more easily continue in the ordinary service.

5. Better still, the Christian workers have been trained for work in their own church and will continue to rally about their pastor in ever-increasing usefulness.

6. It develops the evangelistic gifts of the pastor, binds his people more closely to him, and prepares the whole church for more united and efficient effort in seeking the lost. The earnest pastor and his faithful helpers have sown the seed, and it will encourage their hearts and strengthen their hands to reap their own harvest.

7. The campaign in Indianapolis, where prominent reform measures were also worked out, cost the churches \$5,000 for the whole year. It is estimated that a Billy Sunday campaign would have cost about 40,000, besides what the evangelist gets—probably about \$30,000 more—while the results would have been no greater, and in all probability not so permanent.

We believe that few cities that make careful preparation for a simultaneous campaign, and carry it out in a whole-hearted way, will see cause for adopting the other method. Back the complete reliance upon the Holy Spirit.

If we do our part and leave results with Him, there can be no question as to the final issue.

of all such effort must, of course, be Atlanta, Ga.

DAVIDSON COLLEGE.

Annual Letter to the Presbyteries Controlling Davidson College.

The college draws near the close of its eighty-first session of continuous service, and, by the mercy of God, is able to report a good year and considerable progress.

The session opened last September with the largest enrollment in its history, 393. For the first time, so far

as I know, it was necessary to give notice that we could not accept additional students.

Seventy-eight young men have indicated the ministry as their chosen calling, a few of these being of other denominations than our Church. With those who are seriously considering the ministry and those who are volunteers for mission service, we may assume that at least 100 of the students are expecting to serve in evangelistic work. It is a record we may well thank God for, and we do. Only five of the students are not members of some evangelistic Church. The last to join here is a young Cuban of Roman Catholic family.

Your college is prospering in that it is appealing to wider and wider patronage, and larger numbers of our people are desirous of placing their sons in our care. The demand on the college for expansion is very great, but it calls for greater expense in providing dormitories, class rooms, laboratories and teachers. We are not in debt—not because we do not have every opportunity and strong incentive to spend more than we have, but because it is the policy of the administration to keep out of debt and expend only what is in hand.

The college has reached the point where, if we do expand, it must be in several directions at once—mechanical equipment, class rooms, teachers. We are in the condition of the business man who is walking the floor at night devising means of financing a growing, prosperous business.

Possibly the two most immediate needs are First, To endow the Chair of Bible. Certainly, Davidson, the largest of all our colleges, should have this chair endowed, and it ought to be done in memory of our great and venerable ex-president and founder of our splendid Bible course, Dr. J. B. Shearer.

Second. We need a new and greatly enlarged central heating plant, to heat economically and safely the great Chambers building, the Morrison Memorial, a new dormitory which we are seriously considering, and the new gymnasium, which we will be building this spring and summer. This new plant will also furnish the space and heat for a much-needed college laundry. The heat put into the Chambers, and Morrison Hall will, with some additional work, give us eight or nine additional lecture and laboratory rooms, and solve for several years the necessity along that line. Twenty-five thousand dollars spent in this way would go a long way towards making expansion in several directions possible. Thirty-five thousand to forty thousand dollars would be required for the Bible Chair, and its establishment would at this time appeal to many.

I am glad to report that the first year of the new elective class in Church History and Government, taught by Dr. C. M. Richards, is proving a distinct success. The History, Government and Doctrines of the Churches generally are studied with special reference to a clear exposition of our own. A short course in Sabbath-School Methods and Management is also included. This course is not open generally to candidates for the ministry, who will get a more extended study of its subjects in the Seminary, but for the laymen who are destined to become church officers and workers. We hope to send out a constant supply of men who know the background of church history, together with the distinctive principles of government and doctrines, and will be thereby encouraged to greater

work and be enabled to render a better service to the church.

We now have a teaching force of seventeen, which does not include the president, treasurer and other officers. Next year we will have another teacher in the Science department, Dr. Cartledge, a graduate of the University of Chicago. We will also have an expert gymnasium director (college graduate, student of Springfield Training School, and Y. M. C. A. physical director), Mr. George Mackey, whose business it will be, in collaboration with our present efficient physical director, to develop the students into well-rounded physical manhood. The new gymnasium will be one of the best appointed buildings of its kind in the South, and large enough for a student body of from five to six hundred.

A recent investigation of the reasons why students come to Davidson shows that the pastor's influence has considerable weight, but not nearly so much as it might have if wisely and widely exerted. It is not in Davidson's interest alone that I make the appeal to pastors to use their rightful influence on the young men of their congregations to attend the Christian college. They will do much for the future of the Master's kingdom in exercising such an influence.

Davidson, now in its eighty-first year, has a host of alumni and friends. Their influence with that of the pastors and current student body has, we find, resulted in sending us nearly three-fourths of our students—a splendid testimonial to the service of the college on the part of those who know.

May I suggest that any of you having an opportunity to advise young men about a college, secure David-

son's catalogue and learn for yourself what the college offers, and especially what is required of the entering student. You can then act on real knowledge.

Brethren, above all else, pray for us—for the trustees, the officers of administration, the faculty of instruction, and the student body—that God will bless this vine of His own planting, keeping it true to the purposes for which it was founded, and enlarge it through the liberality of His stewards just in proportion as it can render Him a greater service in training Christian leadership for His world.

May God bless you in all your deliberations.

I am, very cordially yours,
Wm. J. Martin, President.

RELIEF FOR BELGIUM.

The following statement, made in London, at the headquarters of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, was given out by the Associated Press to-day:

"We can state positively that not a single carload, much less a trainload, of the Commission's provisions, once started for Roubaix or any other town occupied in France, ever failed to arrive. Not only is this true, but the actual figures of the receipt and consumption of the food made out and attested by the French local committees at Roubaix, and checked by the Commission's American delegates in the Lille district, correspond within a few pounds in the total of many tons with the figures of the amount of foodstuffs forwarded by the Commission from Holland and Brussels to this district.

"In fact, the total receipts of the whole 1,882 French communes provisioned by the Commission show a loss



1517-1917

This year of our Lord 1917 is the Quadri-Centennial of the Protestant Reformation.

In the year 1517 Luther nailed his ninety-five theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg.

The great service was rendered the world by this intrepid German monk of lifting the Bible out of the dust of ages and proclaiming it to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

Our own Church and the other Evangelical Denominations of America have determined to celebrate this great event by a Forward Movement in Christian Education and are planning to secure a complete endowment of the Chair of Bible in each one of their Colleges.

Our Presbyterian Colleges are small, but great streams of spiritual blessing have come to our Church, our Country and the World from them!

J. Campbell White says: "The educational trend has gathered. A few years ago it was 'the great university,' but to-day in educational gatherings and in educational literature the small college receives an increasing recognition."

Andrew Carnegie said: "I have been looking largely into small colleges of late. I think a young man who goes into a small college receives a better education than in a larger one."

John R. Mott says: "The Church must not permit the colleges from which she has drawn her ministry to drift into inferiority. The Christian aim and character of these colleges must be preserved. To this end the denominational colleges must be more generously supported."

The reverent study of the Bible in the curriculum and the Christian atmosphere differentiates the Christian College from other institutions. The department of the Bible should be the strongest and the best.

How would you like to endow such a Bible Chair as a Memorial which shall perpetually bear the name of some loved one? How much better than a shaft of marble!

Surely you want some part in this monumental work!

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

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